1. A method of using a smart card, comprising:

issuing a smart card to a user;

issuing manual authentication information to the user;

authenticating the user and the smart card using the manual authentication information;

obtaining a public key from the smart card; and

issuing a digital certificate using the public key to the smart card to activate the smart card.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the manual authentication information comprises a user ID and a password.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising obtaining the digital certificate from a certificate authority.

4. The method according to claim 1, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation.

5. The method according to claim 1, further comprising storing the digital certificate in at least one of the smart card and a workstation.

6. The method according to claim 1, further comprising:

connecting the smart card to a workstation;

initiating a login request to a server;

authenticating the smart card using the digital certificate; and

if authenticated, permitting a login to a computer resource.

7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation, and removing the smart card from the workstation after the authenticating.

8. The method according to claim 6, wherein the authenticating further comprises determining that the digital certificate has not been revoked.

9. A method of using a smart card, comprising:

receiving a smart card;

receiving manual authentication information;

authenticating the smart card using the manual authentication information;

generating a public key using the smart card;

sending the public key to an administration server; and

receiving a digital certificate generated using the public key to activate the smart card.

10. The method according to claim 9, wherein the manual authentication information comprises a user ID and a password.

11. The method according to claim 9, further comprising receiving the digital certificate from a certificate authority.

12. The method according to claim 9, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation.

13. The method according to claim 9, further comprising storing the digital certificate in at least one of the smart card and a workstation.

14. The method according to claim 9, further comprising:

connecting the smart card to a workstation;

sending a login request to a server;

authenticating the digital certificate against a certificate revocation list; and

if authenticated, permitting a login to a computer resource.

15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation, and removing the smart card from the workstation after sending the digital certificate.

16. The method according to claim 9, wherein the authenticating further comprises determining that the digital certificate has not been revoked.

17. A method of using a smart card, comprising:
connecting the smart card to a workstation;
sending a login request to a server;
authenticating a digital certificate for the smart card; and
if authenticated, permitting a login to a computer resource.

18. The method according to claim 17, wherein the digital certificate is obtained by obtaining a public key from the smart card, and receiving the digital certificate from a certificate authority.

19. The method according to claim 17, further comprising obtaining the digital certificate from a certificate authority.

20. The method according to claim 17, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation, and the removing the smart card from the workstation after authenticating.

21. The method according to claim 17, further comprising storing the digital certificate in at least one of the smart card and a workstation.

22. The method according to claim 17, wherein the authenticating further comprises determining that the digital certificate has not been revoked.

23. A method of using a smart card, comprising:

issuing a smart card to a user;

issuing manual authentication information to the user, the manual authentication information comprising a user ID and a password;

on first use of the smart card:

connecting the smart card to a workstation;

authenticating the user and the smart card using the manual authentication information;

obtaining a public key from the smart card; and

sending a digital certificate generated using the public key from a certificate authority to the smart card to activate the smart card.

on a subsequent use of the smart card:

connecting the smart card to a workstation;

sending a login request to a server;

authenticating the digital certificate against a certificate revocation list to determine that the digital certificate has not been revoked; and

if authenticated, permitting a login to a computer resource.

24. The method according to claim 23, wherein the authenticating further comprises connecting the smart card to a workstation, and the removing the smart card from the workstation after authenticating.

25. The method according to claim 23, further comprising storing the digital certificate in at least one of the smart card and a workstation.